

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 171949  
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 GSA-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12  
NEA-10 IO-13 JUSE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 COME-00  
FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 PA-01  
CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 SP-02  
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 SIG-03 /155 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:SCHAAS:CJB  
APPROVED BY EB/ISM:MDEWITT  
FPA:WELCH

-----054519 072109Z /46

O R 072046Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FOR LENAHAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN

SUBJECT: GSA TIN SALES  
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1. ON JULY 3 THE GSA MADE THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE:

THE GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT  
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THE CURRENT SOLICITATION OF OFFERS  
FOR TIN PMDS-MET-207 IS CANCELED AND WILL BE REPLACED BY  
AN INVITATION FOR BIDS AT AN EARLY DATE. THE INVITATION

FOR BIDS WILL SPECIFY THAT NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED WHICH ARE LOWER THAN THE HIGHEST PRICE IN THE LONDON AND PENANG MARKETS, CORRECTED TO DOLLARS EX-DOCK NEW YORK, ON THE DAY OF THE BID OPENING.

2. COMMENT: GSA ADMINISTRATOR SOLOMON HAS PUBLICLY PLEDGED TO REVIEW ALL PROCEDURES FOR GSA TRANSACTIONS. SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION WITH RESPECT TO STOCK-PILE PROCEDURES ARE MATERIALS WHICH WERE BEING DISPOSED OF BY NEGOTIATED CONTRACT OR OFFERED FOR SALE ON THE BASIS OF A SHELF PRICE, I.E., THOSE MATERIALS NOT BEING DISPOSED OF UNDER COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURES. ON JUNE 27, GSA ANNOUNCED THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF SALES OFFERINGS OF SUCH MATERIALS--TIN, MICA, NATURAL BATTERY GRADE MANGANESE DIOXIDE, METALLURGICAL GRADE MANGANESE ORE, QUARTZ CRYSTALS, AND RARE EARTHS--PENDING A REVIEW OF METHODS OF SALE. GSA HAS TAKEN THIS ACTION TO AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF POSSIBLE IMPROPRIETY IN DISPOSALS MADE ON THE BASIS OF SHELF PRICE OR NEGOTIATED CONTRACT. HOWEVER, NO RPT NO IRREGULARITIES IN STOCKPILE DISPOSALS HAVE BEEN ALLEGED.

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3. IN PRACTICE, GSA IS ENTERING INTO NO CONTRACTS FOR DISPOSAL OF EXCESS MATERIALS FROM THE STOCKPILE WITHOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIRECT APPROVAL OF FPA DIRECTOR. THE SPECIAL REGULATIONS WITH REGARD TO TIN WERE ISSUED AS THE RESULT OF A REQUEST FOR A WAIVER OF THE PROHIBITION AGAINST FURTHER SALES OF TIN ON DAILY FIXED PRICES. THAT REQUEST FOR WAIVER WAS DENIED. WE ESTIMATE THAT DISPOSALS FROM THE REMAINING APPROXIMATELY 70 TONS OF TIN STILL AUTHORIZED FOR DISPOSAL WILL NOT RESUME FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER MONTH. (NOTE LANGUAGE IN PRESS RELEASE "AT AN EARLY DATE").

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TIN, SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE171949  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SCHAAS:CJB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780279-0881  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 314b6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EMIN  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014